

# Happy Father's Day!



*"Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father, and give attention  
that you may gain understanding..." (Prov. 4:1, NASB'95)*

**Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA**  
**June 15<sup>th</sup> AD 2025**

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifteenth Day of June, *in the Year of our Lord 2025*



- ONE - IS - YOUR - MASTER - AND - ALL - YE - ARE - BRETHREN -



Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

## Sunday School—9:30 AM.

Understanding Medieval Christianity provides the necessary backdrop for grasping the great doctrines and monumental importance of the Reformation.

## Morning Worship—9:30 AM.

Call to Worship:\* *"Bless His Holy Name"* (#8).

Invocation.\*

Hymn: *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* (#28).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: *Ezekiel 2:1-8.*

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Hymn: *"On Jordan's Stormy Banks"* (#511).

Announcements.

Hymn: *"Shall we Gather at the River"* (#510).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Message: *"RIGHTLY HANDLING THE WORD (PT. X)."*

Closing Hymn:\* *"Shall we Gather at the River"* (#510).

Closing Hymn: *"The Light of the World is Jesus"* (#193; vv. 1-2).

Final Prayer and Reflection Time.

Benediction.\*



### Week of June 8 – June 14

Sunday School: 4. Morning Worship: 12. Brethren Class: 4.

Midweek: 3. Weekly Offering: \$333.<sup>60</sup>.

Video: *"Romanism: Its Scope & Influence"*—152 Total Views.

Video: *"Romanism & Ecumenicalism:"*—135 Total Views.

**Midweek Prayer & Bible Study: Thurs., 6:30PM.**

## AFRICA UPDATE: Keith Merriman (6/7/25)

Dear beloved saints,

Greetings in the Lord. Salomon and Mary landed safely in New York this afternoon. They are currently staying at the UN residence for those attending United Nations meetings. They are

exhausted but healthy. They said the trip was better than most. Salomon and Mary will be at the UN until Thursday and we will pick them up in Detroit, Lord willing, Thursday night. Thanks for all your prayers. God bless, Keith

After three years of hard work Pastor Raymond Olinga has received his Doctorate!



## OUR SUPER SUNDAY SCHOOL CHURCH HISTORY SERIES! (What we're doing... Why we're doing it... Where we've been... Where we're going...)

### Our Expectations & Purposes when we launched this series...

- “Hallowed be Thy Name...” Our expectation is that Christians CARE about God’s Glory, God’s World, God’s Family, God’s Plan, and that our interest extends beyond Self & narrow personal concerns (Mt.22:36-40)!
- The basic idea was that these studies would be a launching pad for a variety of side-studies on MANY important doctrinal issues...

### We began with the APOSTOLIC ERA...

- We discussed the scope of activity, as directed by Christ (Acts 1:8)...
- We examined the nature of the foundational Apostolic Office (Eph.2:20).
- We talked about the Canon: *HOW did we get the Bible in its present form?*
- We discussed miraculous sign-gifts—*exclusive* to the Apostolic Age!
- Pentecost: beginning a new dispensation before God; Israel ≠ the Church!
- The separation of Church & Synagogue, and Gentile salvation (Rom.11).
- Rising Error: Gnostic mysticism (*Col., 1&2John*), Judaizing legalism (*Gal.*).

### We discussed the Era of the EARLY FATHERS...

- A clash of cultures: a secular Greco-Roman mindset vs. Christ (Acts 26:24).
- The character of a crucial era: simple but faithful men building upon the work of the Apostles; eyewitnesses to the Apostles and the developing NT.
- A History of the Imperial Persecutions (based on *Fox’s Book of Martyrs*).
- Heresies (Gnosticism, etc.)—errors that are *still with us*, in various forms!

### The developing Church of the LATER FATHERS...

- An era of advanced theology and great men (Augustine, Jerome, etc.)
- Great controversies & errors that are STILL with us (Arianism, etc.)!
- Christology: WHO is the Biblical Jesus (Mt. 16:15)? Early creeds (Nicaea).
- We defined & examined the Trinity, and examined the “Oneness” error.
- A MAJOR study of Predestination and Original Sin! (Rom. 5:12-21; 9:1-29)
- A MAJOR study on the relationship between Church and State! (Mt. 22:21)
- Developing errors within the normative Church (e.g., ordinances, polity, salvation)—which would eventually germinate in the Romanist heresy...
- A study in asceticism, sexuality & monasticism (1Tim.4:3, Col.2:20-23).
- Missions & the nominal conversion of Europe (Patrick, etc.); Mt.28:19-20.

### 1,000 years of the MEDIEVAL CHURCH: 1/2 of Church History!

- KEY THEME: the rise of the Papacy; its claims (Mt.16:18-19) and origins.
- The rise of ISLAM & the Crusades: WHAT do Muslims believe?
- The division of Christendom: Eastern Orthodoxy vs. Roman Catholicism.
- The rise of proto-Reformers: Wycliffe, Huss, Savonarola, Waldo. Martyrs!
- Halley’s Church History: censored by the BGEA & modern publishers!
- CURRENT EVENTS in Rome that the whole world was focused upon!
- Romanism’s appeal—underlining some of neo-evangelicalism’s failures.
- Exposing Rome’s real face: gross superstition, improper worship, heresy...
- NEXT: the glorious REFORMATION, & the difficult MODERN ERA!